

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 7, 11-14, 17-18, 20-25, and 27-30 are pending. The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 17-18, 20-22, and 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,345,606 to Duceck et al. ("Duceck"). Claims 3-4, 11-14, 23-26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duceck in view of U.S. Pat. No. RE38,600 E to Mankovitz ("Mankovitz").

Applicants appreciate the Examiner granting the telephonic interview of September 14, 2010 during which distinctions between the independent claims and Duceck were discussed. During the interview, Applicants proposed an amendment to the independent claims that the Examiner agreed would overcome the rejection, as discussed further below. In view of the telephonic interview, Applicants have made clarifying amendments to several claims as set forth in the above listing of amended claims to more particularly and distinctly claim various embodiments of the invention. These amendments are fully supported by the originally filed specification. In light of the subsequent remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance.

The Rejection of Independent Claims 1, 18, 20, and 22 under §102 is Overcome

A method according to amended independent Claim 18 includes receiving a partial name of a radio station entered by a user as a search criterion. The partial name comprises some, but not all, of the characters of a complete name of the radio station. The method further comprises responding to reception of the partial name of the radio station by generating a radio station name set including at least one radio station name. The radio station name set is generated at least in part by using the received partial name of the radio station as a search criterion by matching the received partial name of the radio station with at least one piece of supplementary information broadcast in conjunction with a plurality of radio stations. Each piece of supplementary information comprises an associated radio station name. The method additionally comprises controlling a display to display the radio station name set, including at least one radio station name, generated by matching the received partial name of the radio station with the

supplementary information. The method also includes receiving a user selection of a radio station name, the user selection being from the radio station name set displayed on the display and generated by matching the received partial name of the radio station with the supplementary information. Claims 1, 20, and 22 are directed to an apparatus, apparatus, and computer program product, respectively, and, though each has its own respective scope, have been amended to include substantially similar recitations insofar as this discussion is concerned.

The Office Action contends that independent Claims 1, 18, 20, and 22 (“the independent claims”) are anticipated by Duckeck. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office for at least those reasons discussed with the Examiner during the telephonic interview.

Briefly, Duckeck teaches a vehicle radio receiver for receiving traffic information. The vehicle receiver is configured such that it enables a user to receive traffic information that specifically relates to a geographical region of interest. The vehicle receiver is taught to comprise a first memory device 12, a second memory device 26, an input device 24, a station memory 54, a selection circuit 56, a station search facility 52, a de-multiplexer 36 and an optical output device 14. The second memory device 26 stores region identifiers e. Each of the region identifiers is associated with a program identification code f of stations that are “responsible for traffic news in the respective regions with the region identifiers e” (see column 4, lines 44-51). Column 5, lines 3-4 states that “[i]f the driver wishes to receive only traffic news from a particular region, then he can select the desired region with the region identifier e by utilizing the input device 24”. Column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 2 teaches that each program identification code f comprises four hexadecimal characters. The first character designates the country. The second character represents an area code number. The third and fourth characters represent a station or station chain of a broadcasting company. If the driver chooses to receive traffic news from a particular region by selecting a region identifier e, the relevant memory field 28 of the second memory device 26 “is addressed which contains the respective region identifier e as well as the program identification codes f of the station or station chains responsible for this region. These program identification codes f are then also present at [a] comparator 50, which compares them with the program identification code of the station just received and decoded by [a] decoder 10” (column 5, lines 3-14).

Duckeck further provides at column 5, lines 14-29: “[i]f the program identification codes do not match, then the connected station search facility 52 is started and causes [a] receiving part 38 to tune itself to the next receivable station. If the station now has a program identification code which matches the one selected in the memory field 28, then the search facility 52 is stopped by the output signal of the comparator 50, and the receiving part remains locked to the respective station. Otherwise a further station is searched for. If there are a plurality of receivable stations, then the station search facility can also be controlled in such a way that first of all it sweeps over the entire receiving range for receivable stations and temporarily stores the frequencies of the receivable stations in a memory 54, and the station which can be received best is selected by a selection circuit 56”.

The Office asserts that the feature “receiving a partial name of a radio station as a search criterion, the partial name comprising some, but not all, of the characters of a complete name of the radio station” is disclosed at column 5, lines 3-13 of Duckeck. This section of Duckeck discloses the comparison of program identification codes f stored in the second memory device 26 with received program identification codes to determine whether the radio station that is currently tuned in is of interest. Column 4, lines 59 to column 5, line 2 of Duckeck teaches that a program identification (PI) code comprises four hexadecimal characters, only two of which (the third and fourth characters) relate to a station or station chain of a broadcasting company. However, the two characters that relate to a station or station chain of a broadcasting company do not represent a partial name comprising some, but not all, of the characters of a complete name of a radio station, as is recited in the independent claims. The example program identification code disclosed in Duckeck is “D2 C2”. There is no disclosure in Duckeck that the characters “C2” are letters from a complete name of a radio station. On the contrary, since these characters are hexadecimal characters, a person having ordinary skill in the art would understand that they do not represent characters from a complete name of a radio station. Consequently, the cited portion of Duckeck does not teach or suggest “receiving a partial name of a radio station as a search criterion, the partial name comprising some, but not all, of the characters of a complete name of the radio station.”

Moreover, even assuming *in arguendo* that the PI codes taught by Duckeck disclosed a partial name of a radio station, Duckeck does not teach or suggest that a PI code is “received...as a search criterion” and matched with the supplementary information to generate a radio station name set, as would be required in order to anticipate the independent claims. In this regard, the PI code is not taught to be received as a search criterion or used to match supplementary information. The only disclosure in Duckeck that could even remotely be considered a search criterion is at col. 5, lines 3-5 selection of a “desired region with the region identifier e.” However, it is clear from the teachings of Duckeck that the region identifier e is not a PI code and moreover, the region identifier taught by Duckeck does not teach or suggest a partial name of a radio station comprising some, but not all, of the characters of a complete name of the radio station.

Applicants further note that during the telephonic interview, the Examiner referred to the contents of memory locations 18 as illustrated in FIG. 1 as a “name of a radio station.” However, the contents of memory locations 18 are taught in Col. 4, lines 32-35 to be “place names a.” This is apparent from FIG. 1, which illustrates “Hamburg-F,” “Hanover-East,” and “Hildesheim” in the memory locations 18. Accordingly, the contents of memory locations 18 do not teach or suggest a complete name of a radio station or a partial name of a radio station received as a search criterion.

The Office also argues that Col. 5, lines 14-22 of Duckeck discloses the feature “responding... by generating a radio station name set including at least one radio station name...,” as recited in the independent claims. This section of Duckeck, however, does not refer to the generation of anything that would be understood by a person having ordinary skill in the art to be “a radio station name set including at least one radio station name”. This section of Duckeck merely states that if a program identification code is received which matches the one selected in the memory field 28 of the second memory device 26, then the receiving part of the vehicle receiver remains locked to that station. The subsequent text of Duckeck refers to temporarily storing the frequencies of receivable stations in memory 54. However, there is no disclosure in any of this text of anything that could be considered to be the generation of a radio station name set including at least one radio station name.

The Office further argues that Duceck discloses the feature “controlling a display to display the radio station name set including the at least one radio station name, generated by matching the received partial name of the radio station with the supplementary information” as recited in the independent claims. In this regard, the Office Action alleges that column 5, lines 49-53 of Duceck teaches this feature. Column 5, lines 49-53 of Duceck recite “[a] message text, which is called up and put together from stored data by corresponding addressing of the memory locations, is represented here in the display fields of the output device 14”. A review of the preceding text of Duceck reveals that the output device 14 is used to display traffic news that is retrieved from the first memory device 12 (see column 5, lines 33-49). Duceck does not teach or suggest that the output device 14 is used to display anything that can be considered to be “radio station name set”. As mentioned above, Duceck does not even teach or suggest the generation of anything that can be considered to be a “radio station name set”, so there cannot be any disclosure of the display of any such generated radio station name set in Duceck.

The Office additionally posits that the feature “receiving a user selection of a radio station name...” is disclosed at column 5, lines 49-53 of Duceck. However, this section of Duceck does not disclose anything that can be considered to be a user selection of a radio station name. It is noted that, in Duceck, there is no selection of anything that can be considered to be a “radio station name”. A user/driver merely selects a geographical region for which he wishes to receive traffic news.

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Duceck does not teach or suggest several features recited in the independent claims. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is overcome. Nevertheless, Applicants have amended the independent claims to clarify that the partial name of the radio station received as a search criterion is input by a user. As admitted by the Examiner during the telephonic interview, Duceck does not teach or suggest receipt of a partial name of a radio station input by a user as a search criterion and the amendment overcomes the rejection. That is, even assuming *in arguendo* that the PI code taught by Duceck constitutes a partial name of a radio station, which Applicants respectfully traverse for at least those reasons discussed above, the PI code is not input by a user. Moreover, as stated

previously, Duceck does not teach or suggest use of a PI code as a criterion. In view of this distinction, Applicants have further amended the independent claims to clarify that the radio station name set is generated at least in part by using the received partial name of the radio station as a search criterion by matching the received partial name of the radio station with the supplementary information. It will be appreciated that Duceck does not even remotely suggest usage of a PI code as a search criterion by matching a PI code with supplementary information.

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the independent claims are patentably distinct from Duceck such that the rejection is overcome. Moreover, none of the other cited references, whether taken alone or in combination cure the deficiencies of Duceck. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the independent claims are patentably distinct from the cited references, taken alone or in combination, such that the rejection of the independent claims is overcome. Applicants further respectfully submit that the independent claims are in condition for allowance.

The Rejection of the Dependent Claims is Overcome

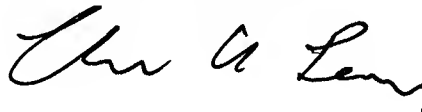
Because the dependent claims include all of the recitations of a respective independent base claim, Applicants submit that the dependent claims are patentably distinct from the cited references, taken alone or in combination, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claims and are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amended claims and remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the present claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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